

Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

WILSON, LARRY DAVID. 1985. *Tantilla albiceps*.

Tantilla albiceps Barbour

Tantilla albiceps Barbour, 1925:156. Type-locality, "Barro Colorado Island, Gatun Lake, Canal Zone of Panama." Holotype, Mus. Comp. Zool. 20600, adult (?) male, collected in February, 1925 by Thomas Barbour (examined by author).

● CONTENT. No subspecies are recognized.

● DEFINITION AND DIAGNOSIS. "A species of *Tantilla* with a uniform olive slate dorsum grading on the sides of the body to ivory white on the venter. The head and nape are ivory white, except for a dusky-colored ring around the eye" (Wilson, 1982). Ventral and subcaudal counts are 183 and 65+, respectively. *Tantilla albiceps* may be distinguished from all congeners by possession of an ivory white head and nape and a uniform olive slate dorsum.

● DESCRIPTIONS. The most complete description is that of Wilson (1982).

● ILLUSTRATIONS. Wilson (1982) published black-and-white photographs of lateral and dorsal views of the head and anterior body of the holotype. No other illustrations exist.

● DISTRIBUTION. *Tantilla albiceps* is known only from the type locality, a site near the laboratory building on Barro Colorado Island in the artificial Gatun Lake, Canal Zone, Panamá.

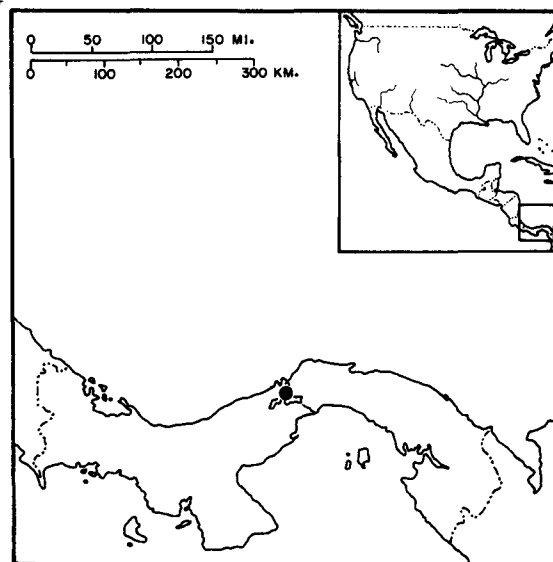
● FOSSIL RECORD. None.

● PERTINENT LITERATURE. Wilson (1982) presented a description and discussion of geographic and ecological distribution. Myers and Rand (1969) discussed the possible extirpation (=extinction?) of this species from the well-sampled Barro Colorado Island. The remaining literature, beyond the original description, consists of the appearance of the name in various lists.

● ETYMOLOGY. The name *albiceps* is derived from the Latin *albus*, meaning "white," and the New Latin *ceps*, meaning "the head," in reference to the white head characteristic of this species.

LITERATURE CITED

Barbour, Thomas. 1925. A new frog and a new snake from Panama. Occas. Pap. Boston Soc. Natur. Hist. 5:155-156.



MAP. Solid circle indicates the type- and only known locality.

Myers, Charles W., and A. Stanley Rand. 1969. Checklist of amphibians and reptiles of Barro Colorado Island, Panama, with comments on faunal change and sampling. Smithsonian Contrib. Zool. 10:1-11.

Wilson, Larry David. 1982. A review of the colubrid snakes of the genus *Tantilla* of Central America. Milwaukee Publ. Mus. Contrib. Biol. Geol. (52):1-77.

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